

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 7 are pending in the present application. Paragraph 2 rejects claims 1–7 under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over prior art Figure 6 and U.S. Patent No. 4,436,005 to *Hanson*. Independent claim 1 has been cancelled.

Independent claims 2, 5 – 6, *generally* call for, among other things,

a socket including a fist end having a square hole defined by a plurality of sidewalls, each said side wall having a concave portion formed therein,

a main body having a first end . . . an opposite second end, and an axis that extends through said first and said second ends;

a drive column proximate said main body second end . . .;

a concave recess formed in said drive column; and a shoulder formed intermediate said main body second end and said drive column annular recess, said shoulder having a cross section that is larger than a cross section of said drive column recess and smaller than a cross section of said main body, wherein each of said cross sections are taken perpendicular to said main body axis . . .

wherein . . . in a first position . . . said drive column axis intersects an axis of said socket at a non-zero angle such that a first portion of an end of said drive column is received in one of said plurality of said sidewall cavities such that a portion of said drive column distal from said main body in one of said concave portions formed in said sidewalls.

Independent claim 7, *generally* calls for, among other things,

a socket defining a cavity having a square cross-section therein . . . , said square hole being defined by a plurality of sidewalls, each said sidewall defining a concave portion therein;

a main body having a first end . . . an opposite second end, and an axis that extends through said first and said second ends;

a drive column proximate said main body second end, wherein said drive column is adapted to be received in a square cavity formed in one end of the socket and defining a longitudinal axis that is coincident with said main body axis; and

a concave recess formed in said drive column that bisects said drive column into a first part distal from said main body second end and a second part proximate said main body second end; and

wherein . . . in a first position . . . said drive column first part is within said drive socket square cavity and said drive column second part is not so that said axis of said drive column intersects an axis of the socket at

a non-zero angle such that a portion of said drive column distal first part is received in one of said concave portions formed in said sidewalls.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 2 – 7 since neither of *Hanson* nor prior art Figure 6 teaches a concave portion formed in a socket that is capable of receiving a portion of the drive column. Prior art Figure 6 illustrates an extension 60 having a first end engaged with a socket wrench 61 and a second end having a driving column 64 that engages a socket 62. A recessed section 65 is defined between the driving column 64 and a main body of the extension 60. Socket 62 defines a groove that is sized to receive a detent. The height of the groove is smaller than the height of the drive column that is located below recessed section 65.

Hanson '005 discloses an adapter 10 having a drive shaft 11, a truncated quadrangular pyramid 17 and a square drive end portion 13 intermediate drive shaft 11 and truncated quadrangular pyramid 17. Truncated quadrangular pyramid 17 decreases in size from a first end 13c to square drive end 13.

Hanson fails to teach or disclose any type of concave portion formed on the socket walls that define the cavity. Prior art Figure 6, on the other hand, discloses a cavity formed in the socket walls that is sized for receiving a detent. The figure, however, fails to disclose a concave portion formed in the walls that is capable of receiving a portion of the drive column when the axis of the drive column intersects the axis of the socket. For at least this reason, the combination of prior art Figure 6 and *Hanson* fails to teach or disclose all of the claimed limitations of independent claims 2, and 5 – 7. Claims 3 – 4 directly or indirectly depend from independent claims 2. These dependent claims recite further limitations and are allowable in their respective combinations.

TWO-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME REQUEST

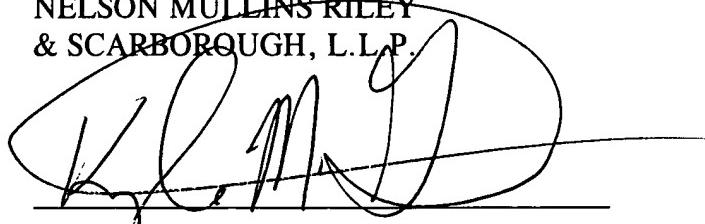
Applicant hereby requests a two-month extension of time in accordance with 37 C.F.R. Section 1.136(a). A fee in the amount of \$450.00 is due pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.17(a)(2).

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable action and withdrawal of the present rejections and objections is, therefore, respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at his convenience to resolve any remaining issues. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1196.

Respectfully submitted,

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